

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for analyzing software application needs of a banking entity to determine whether to remove an entity software application, comprising the steps of:

inventorying a set of entity software applications that are currently used by the banking entity, wherein the entity software applications are grouped by business process;

formulating a set of questions related to the entity software application based on a business and information technology strategy corresponding to the banking entity, wherein the business strategy includes business objectives and priorities, wherein the set of questions are tailored to assess the software application needs of the banking entity and to measure how well the entity software application is meeting the software application needs, wherein the priorities include obtaining real-time transaction of data for on-line banking transactions, wherein the questions are directed to investigate the banking entity's topology, a number and type of user of the application, technical support given an application, and standards that apply to the application;

weighting possible responses to the set of questions based on the business strategy of the banking entity, wherein the weighting comprises assigning a value for each possible response to the set of questions, and wherein there are at least three possible responses to the question in the set of questions;

receiving entity responses to the set of questions; ~~and~~

tabulating the weighted responses to provide a baseline response;

analyzing the received responses to make a set of recommendations, wherein the set of recommendations is made by comparing the baseline response with a predetermined value(s);

determining, based on the entity response, whether to remove the entity software application;

generating a report based on the received entity responses, wherein the report includes the recommendations; and

displaying at least one of the baseline response, the set of recommendations and the report on at least one of a graphical user interface (GUI) and an electronic message system.

2. - 12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~A computer-implemented method for analyzing software application needs of a banking entity to determine whether to remove an entity software application, comprising the steps of:~~

~~inventorying a set of entity software applications that are currently used by the banking entity;~~

~~formulating a set of questions and possible responses related to the entity software application based on a business and information technology strategy corresponding to the banking entity, wherein the business strategy includes business objectives and priorities, wherein the priorities include obtaining real-time transaction data for on-line banking transactions, wherein the questions are directed to investigate~~

the banking entity's topology, a number and type of user of the application, technical support given an application, and standards that apply to the application; ~~weighting the possible responses for each question with an assigned value based on the business strategy of the banking entity, and wherein there are at least three possible responses to the question in the set of questions;~~
~~receiving entity responses to the set of questions;~~
~~analyzing values corresponding to the entity responses to determine whether to remove the entity software application; and~~
~~making a set of recommendations based on the analysis.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[13]] 1, wherein the set of recommendations is selected from the group consisting of: eliminating the entity software application, modifying the entity software application, adding a new application, or switching between applications.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[13]] 1, wherein the analysis is made by comparing values corresponding to the entity responses to predetermined values.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for analyzing software application needs of a banking entity to determine whether to remove an entity software application, comprising:

an inventory system for inventorying entity software applications that are currently used by the banking entity, wherein the entity software applications are grouped by business process;

a query system for providing a set of questions and weighted responses related to the entity software application in the inventory system, wherein the set of questions and weighted responses are formulated based on a business and information technology strategy corresponding to the banking entity, and wherein the set of questions are tailored to assess the software application needs of the banking entity and to measure how well the entity software application is meeting the software application needs, and wherein there are at least three possible responses to the questions in the set of questions, wherein the business strategy includes business objectives and priorities, wherein the priorities include obtaining real-time transaction of data for on-line banking transactions, wherein the question are directed to investigate the banking entity's topology, a number and type of user of the application, technical support given an application, and standards that apply to the application; ~~and~~

a tabulation system for tabulating the weighted responses to provide a baseline response;

a review system for analyzing entity responses to the set of questions to determine whether to remove the entity software application, wherein the review system compares the baseline response to a predetermined value;

an examination system for receiving the entity responses to the set of questions;
and
a recommendation system for making recommendations based on the entity
responses.

17. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the query system retrieves the set of questions and weighted responses from a database.

20. – 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A program product stored on a recordable medium for analyzing software application needs of a banking entity to determine whether to remove an entity software application, which when executed, comprises:

an inventory system for inventorying entity software applications that are currently used by the banking entity, wherein the entity software applications are grouped by business process;

a query system for providing a set of questions and weighted responses related to the entity software application in the inventory system, wherein the set of questions and weighted responses are formulated based on a business and information technology strategy corresponding to the banking entity, wherein the query system formulates the set of questions and weighted responses based on the business strategy, and wherein there are at least three possible responses to the question in the set of questions, wherein the business strategy includes business objectives and priorities, wherein the priorities include obtaining real-time transaction of data for on-line banking transactions, wherein the questions are directed to investigate the banking entity's topology, a number and type of user of the application, technical support given an application, and standards that apply to the application; and

a tabulation system for tabulating the weighted responses to provide a baseline response;

a review system for analyzing entity responses to the set of questions to determine whether to remove the entity software application, wherein the review system compares the baseline response to a predetermined value;

an examination system for receiving the entity responses to the set of questions;
and
a recommendation system for making recommendations based on the entity
responses.

27. - 30. (Canceled).

31. (Currently Amended) A computer system for analyzing software application needs of a banking entity to determine whether to remove an entity software application, comprising:

a processor;

a computer system memory;

an interface; and

a software product stored on the computer system memory and executable by the processor, wherein the software product comprises:

an inventory system for inventorying entity software applications that are currently used by the banking entity, wherein the entity software applications are grouped by business process;

a query system for providing a set of questions and weighted responses related to the entity software application in the inventory system, wherein the set of questions and weighted responses are formulated based on a business and information technology strategy corresponding to the banking entity, wherein the query system formulates the set of questions and weighted responses based on the business strategy, and wherein there are at least three possible responses to the question in the set of questions, wherein the business strategy includes business objectives and priorities, wherein the priorities include obtaining real-time transaction of data for on-line banking transactions, wherein the questions are directed to investigate the banking entity's topology, a number and type of user of the application, technical support given an application, and standards that apply to the application; and

a tabulation system for tabulating the weighted responses to provide a baseline response;

a review system for analyzing entity responses to the set of questions to determine whether to remove the entity software application, wherein the review system compares the baseline response to a predetermined value;

an examination system for receiving the entity responses to the set of questions; and

a recommendation system for making recommendations based on the entity responses.

32. - 35. (Canceled).